

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) A medical implant comprising:

a first bone anchor;

a second bone anchor; and

a brace comprising:

means for facilitating pivoting the brace from a first position to a second position, wherein in the second position the brace couples the first bone anchor to the second bone anchor;

means for slidably adjusting the ~~means for pivoting~~ brace along at least a portion of the longitudinal length of the brace; and

means for transmitting torque between the brace and at least one of the first and second bone anchors.

26. (Currently Amended) The medical implant of claim 25 wherein the means for facilitating pivoting further comprises a supporting means wherein the supporting means comprises:

a pair of bearings displaced on opposite sides of the brace while in the second position,

each of the pair of bearings interfacing with ~~an indentation longitudinally displaced along~~
~~the brace~~ the means for slidingly adjusting the brace.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Canceled)

29. (Previously Presented) The medical implant of claim 25 wherein the
medical implant further comprises:

a receptacle; and

means for polyaxially attaching the receptacle to the head of the second bone anchor;

and wherein the receptacle comprises means for engaging with the brace.

30. (Previously presented) The medical implant of claim 25 further comprising:

means for locking the brace and the anchors in a fixed relationship with each other.

31-42. (Canceled)